Your seventh point relates to the lapse of budget grants. You may rest assured that the Government and the P W. Department are equally earnest in their desire to keep the Kodayar works in perfect condition. I may therefore assure you that, except in unavoidable cases, estimates for the maintenance and upkeep of the Kodayar works will not be allowed to lapse.

As regards throwing open the Tekkumala reserve for the free grazing of sheep and goats, I had not also understood the significance of separating the sheep from the goats. But now I understand that the goat is a very dangerous animal from the point of view of forest conservancy, while the sheep is not. I am told that the goats do very great damage to tree-growth and shrubs. For instance, if a small shrub or tree is once bitten by a goat, it withers away. So their admission is dangerous.

Your last point will be considered by the Government.

69. Needs of Nanjinad.

MR. R. RAMASWAMI (*Nominated*) thanked the Government for nominating a Tamil Ezhava member to the Assembly. He then spoke about the need for improving the condition of villages in Nanjinad in regard to sanitation, water supply, roads, dispensaries, reading rooms, etc. The *pakuthies* of Tenganputur, Dharmapuram, Tamarakulam and Kanyakumari were mostly inhabited by the poor and depressed classes. Sanitation was unknown to them and their habits were unclean and consequently epidemics soon spread among them as would be evidenced by the heavy mortality during the epidemic season in 1104. They should therefore be taught the rudiments of hygiene and also instructed to keep their villages in a sanitary condition.

In Puttalam and other places, people were suffering from scarcity of water. Wells should therefore be sunk wherever necessary. There was a big well on the western side of the Parakkai Mankamanavalam Perunteruvu. It was constructed at a cost of about Rs. 2,000 but was now in a very neglected condition. It should be drained and cleaned by removing the $\frac{3}{4}$ dirt and silt and made fit for public use.

The following roads were absolutely necessary in the Parakkai and Tenganputur *pakuthies*:—

(1) A road, two furlongs in length, from Kanthipuram on the 2nd furlong, 2nd mile of the Parakkai road to Suchindrakulam;

(2) a road, 4 furlongs long, from the 1st furlong, 2nd mile of the Parakkai road to Mottayyankudiyirippu;

(3) A road, 4 furlongs long, from the 4th furlong, 2nd mile of the Parakkai road to Vandikudiyirippu, and

(4) A road, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, from the 6th furlong, 3rd mile of the Parakkai road to Pallanturai.

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In times of epidemics, the villages could not be inspected and proper medical aid given promptly for want of easy means of communication. The roads should be constructed at an early date.

There was no hospital or dispensary at Tenganputur and Parakkai and the inhabitants were therefore put to much hardship. A morning dispensary from 8 to 11 A. M. might be opened at Parakkai and an evening dispensary from 4 to 5-30 P. M. at Manakudi and the same officer might be put in charge of both the institutions.

Another request of the member was for the opening of a reading room at Parakkai.

He next advocated the need for bringing the Village Panchayat Regulation into operation and establishing a Village Panchayat Court at Parakkai.

Adityapuram in Chempakaramanputur *pakuthi* was mostly inhabited by the Tamil-speaking Ezhavas. Their paddy fields were situate in Putupattu, Venpattupattu, Bhagavatipattu and other places. There was a wooden bridge on the road leading to the above places; but it was in disrepair and the agriculturists were put to much inconvenience in transporting manure etc., and agricultural produce from their lands. During the summer months, drinking water was available only in the wells on the eastern side of the Vembattu tank, but there was no road leading thereto. The Puttanar was used for bathing purposes, but there was no bathing ghat there and consequently accidents were frequent. The bridge at Vellamadam should be repaired, the road opened and a bathing ghat constructed on the 5th mile of the Puttanar at an early date.

The member requested that the nominated members of the Assembly also might be put on the Road Boards. So far as the Board for the Agastisvaram taluk was concerned, two members at least must be nominated to the Board.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ramaswami, your first representation was about wells in Nanjinad villages. As I said in reply to a previous representation, Government are very anxious to have a number of wells sunk in the congested villages of Nanjinad. They do not allow the allotments for these wells, as you fear, to be used for the rich villagers. Those wells are intended for the poor villagers along the coast and Government will always be ready to increase the facilities for obtaining adequate supplies of good drinking water in Nanjinad.

You suggested the opening of a number of roads. I shall refer those suggestions to the Road Board.

I do not share your fear that the taluk members of Tovala and Agastisvaram will care more for the interests of their own villages than the interests of the depressed classes. I am sure that any representation that may be made before the Road Board will cover the interest of the depressed classes as well.

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You referred to the opening of dispensaries. That suggestion will be referred to the Administrative Board, Medical Services.

Then with regard to reading rooms. That is a matter in which the people should begin to take action. It is the general policy of Government to give grants to such reading rooms as are started by the people and there are rules and regulations for the purpose. It is for the enlightened people who want to increase the mental and intellectual culture of the illiterate adults to start such reading rooms and libraries and then come to Government for financial help.

Your suggestions with regard to the establishment of Village Panchayats will be carefully noted.

With regard to your last point, an estimate for providing a good reinforced concrete platform in place of the wooden platform to the bridge at Vellamadam has been sanctioned. The connecting road from the bridge and a bathing ghat by its side will be estimated for in due course and the work begun soon.

70. Certain needs of Nanjinad.

MR. A. GURUNATHAMARTANDA NADAR (*Nominated*) urged the need for converting the morning dispensary at Kottaram into a full time hospital and also for making the necessary improvements to the dispensary building. It was the only dispensary between Nagercoil and Cape Comorin.

Tamil education in the State was not being properly encouraged. The main obstacle in its development was the existing constitution of the Education Department. Very often Inspectors who did not know Tamil were posted to Tamil Districts. In order to remove the defect and to develop Tamil education in the State, the whole State should be divided into a number of Ranges for purposes of the Education Department, each Range having only Tamil or Malayalam schools. Tamil-knowing Inspectors should be posted to the Tamil Ranges and Malayalam-knowing Inspectors to the Malayalam Ranges. All the Inspectors should work under the direct control of the Director of Public Instruction.

There were no proper grazing grounds for cattle which were indispensable to the agriculturist. While he was put to much hardship on that account alone, the Government had aggravated it by placing restrictions on the grazing of goats in unreserved lands on the hill slopes. The restrictions should be removed at an early date.

The tax on *pandarapattam* lands was unduly heavy and the productivity of the soil had decreased. Consequently, many ryots were alienating their lands for the purpose of paying *kist*. When the point was urged at the 20th session of the Assembly, the Government said that the question would be taken up only at the next settlement. It was not known when the next settlement would begin. The grievances of the ryots should be considered at least then.

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